

The City of Marion, South Carolina

SWAMP FOX SCENE

A FREE monthly news magazine for
the citizens and visitors of the Swamp Fox City



Volume 7, Issue 5

October 2017



Ronnie Sanders Re-tires After 34 years

Ronnie Sanders began work with the City of Marion in October 1983 as an employee of the Recreation Department. His outstanding work ethic and dedication earned him the title "Employee of the Year" in 1987. He was later promoted to Street Department Superintendent in 2005.

Ronnie was always willing to undertake any assigned job, from repairing street signs to cleaning storm drains, operating a bulldozer, planting spring flowers, decorating the city for Christmas and supervising a group of employees on various projects. Many of his duties involved long, hard hours and often resulted in him being called out at night to take care of such tasks as cleaning up after a storm, or to assist with emergency situations that would require his immediate attention.

The City of Marion congratulates Ronnie Sanders on his well-deserved retirement. It is our hope and prayer that God will continue to bless Ronnie in all his future ventures.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 8TH-14TH

Marion City Firefighters will be visiting schools during fire prevention week in order to reduce and prevent fire related injuries or deaths. The week of October 8-14, will be National Fire Prevention Week. This year's campaign will be **"Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!"**

In a fire, seconds count. Seconds can mean the difference between residents of our community escaping safely from a fire or having their lives end in tragedy.

That's why this year's Fire Prevention Week theme: "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" is so important. It reinforces why everyone needs to have an escape plan. Here's this year's key campaign messages:

- ◆ **Draw a map of your home** with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- ◆ Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day will everyone in your home and practice using different ways out.
- ◆ Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- ◆ Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- ◆ Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke heat and fire.
- ◆ Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

Smoke alarms are a key part of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.

Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement

Every bedroom needs a working smoke alarm. If you didn't know that, you're not alone. An online questionnaire distributed by the **National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)** showed that less than half (42 percent) of approximately 36,000 respondents did not know that a smoke alarm should be installed in each bedroom of the home.

Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years, make sure you know how old all the smoke alarms are in your home. To find out how old a smoke alarm is, look at the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm; the alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date.

Any questions regarding smoke detectors can be answered by contacting the City of Marion Fire Department at (843) 423-8602.

The Marion and Mullins Chamber ribbon-cutting Ceremony



The Marion Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Mullins Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for the Marion County Sheriff's Satellite office located at Carolinas Hospital-Marion at 11am on Tuesday, September 19, 2017. Marion Chamber of Commerce President Darrell Jameson welcomed the large crowd attending and

Marion Mayor Ashley Brady thanked the hospital and sheriff's office for all they do for our community. Parkes Coggins, CEO of Carolinas Hospital-Marion and Sheriff Brian Wallace spoke on the opening of the sheriff's satellite office. This is a partnership between the hospital and the sheriff's office to be proactive in providing safety to the patients, hospital staff and those visiting the hospital. The satellite office is located in the Emergency Room and has state of the art equipment monitoring the hospital campus. This is a wonderful addition to our community in providing safety to our residents.

Photo Courtesy Marion Chamber of Commerce

Who Should I Call for City Information?

Call City Hall, 843-423-5961, unless otherwise noted, and one of the following will be able to help you.

- Mayor Ashley Brady, (843) 992-3773
- Alan Ammons, City Administrator & Building Official, Ext. 19
- Lakesha Y. Shannon, City Clerk, Ext. 10
- Patricia Brown, City Treasurer, Ext. 18
- Ainsley Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 11
- Elizabeth Gray, Personnel / Purchasing Director, (843) 423-8614
- Vickie J. Nichols, Grant Writing & Publicist, Ext. 22
- Kim Elliott Recreation Director, (843) 423-5410
- Dewayne Tennie, Police Chief, (843) 423-8616
- Cindy Barr, Community Officer (843) 423-8616
- Chris Smith, Captain (843) 423-8616
- Tony Flowers, Investigator (843) 423-8616
- Marilyn Rogers, Investigator (843) 423-8616
- Trey Cooper, Fire Chief, (843) 423-8602
- Jackie Yates, Assistant Fire Chief (843) 423-8602
- Heather Evans, Municipal Court Clerk, (843) 423-8616
- Almeta Mullins, Secretary, (843) 423-8616

“DUTY, HONOR, COUNTRY”

On September 18th Woodmen Life 122 of Marion, in cooperation with the City of Marion participated in an “In Honor and Remembrance” ceremony at the City Hall. The ceremony honored the heroes and victims of September 11, 2001, and fulfilled our community’s promise to never forget that tragic day. The ceremony also paid tribute to members of the military, both current and past, who selflessly protect America’s freedom and liberty. And on a local level, this ceremony also extended unending gratitude to those who safeguard our community - firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians and other first responders who put their lives on the line for our safety.

An American Flag was presented by Mr. Luther Rabon and Mr. Bryan Brown to the City of Marion Mayor Ashley Brady. The flag will proudly fly on the grounds at Green Street Sports Complex. The gathering of more than 50 observers was attentive while Mayor Brady, expressed his gratitude to the Woodmen Life members and the audience, mostly comprised of “First Responders”. Further, he acknowledged the dedication of the President of the Woodmen Life Chapter 122, Ms. Sandra Tindall. Final recognition and thanks was given by Ms. Sandra Tindall.



TREASURES FOR TEXAS AND FLORIDA

The United Methodist Women of First United Methodist Church of Marion is sponsoring a yard sale for Hurricane Relief for Texas and Florida on Saturday, October 7, 2017. The sale will take place from 7:00 - 11:00 am at the church parking lot at the corner of Arch and Pine Streets in Marion, SC. All items were donated by FUMC members and **100% of the proceeds** will go to the Texas and Florida Hurricanes Harvey and Irma Relief Funds. Come out and meet your neighbors and have some fun for a great cause!

Elaine Cullars
 Administrative Assistant
 First United Methodist Church
 PO Box 155
 Marion, SC 29571
 843-423-3533

marionfumc@bellsouth.net

Marion Commerce 27th Annual Golf Tournament

The 27th Annual Marion Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament and Dinner was held on Wednesday, August 23, 2017 at Dusty Hills Country Club. Tournament sponsors for this year were American Waste Systems, Anderson Brothers Bank, ArborOne Farm Credit, Carolinas Hospital System-Marion, First Charter Co., Inc., First Citizens Bank, Marion Self Storage, Palmetto Chevrolet, Palmetto Wellness & Injury Center-Marion, Pee Dee Food Service, and Williamson Printing. Greens sponsors were Bridgers Drug Store, Industrial Solutions, Jordan Waste, Inc., Robert E. Lee, Attorney at Law, Craig Martin, CPA,PA. and Pee Dee Federal Savings Bank.

A Captain’s Choice format was played with a 1 PM shotgun start. After golf, awards were presented by Freddie Barkley and Chamber Executive Vice President Cindy Rogers T’Roy’s Restaurant catered a chicken bog dinner. 60 players participated.

Special thanks are extended to Chamber member volunteers and sponsors for making this year’s tournament and dinner a success.

Tournament Results:

1st Place (55) Wayne George, Bill Rogers, Johnny Atkinson, Rodney Rogers.

2nd Place (56) Byron Beck, Larry McIntyre, Gordon McClellan, Glenn Greene.

3rd Place (60) Darren Sealey, Lester Mathis, George McMillan, Karen Taylor.

4th Place (61) Erwin Page, Barry Madera, Mike Sattane, Jr. , Dan Stevens.

Closest to Pins: # 2 Johnson Atkinson, # 11 Rocky Carswell, # 7 Mark Scott, # 18 George McMillan.

Special Prizes:

T- Roy’s Restaurant sponsored the 4th place prizes. Palmetto Chevrolet sponsored a car for a Hole in One on #18 and Hulon Jewelers sponsored a diamond ring for a Hole in One on #11. This year there were no takers.

The Swamp Fox Scene is the City of Marion’s Free monthly newspaper for citizens and visitor’s of the Swamp Fox City, Marion, South Carolina. Printed by Herald Multiforms in Dillon, city employees produce and distribute the newspaper.

The Marion Chamber and HMRA help pay printing costs.

A PDF version is available by e-mail or online. For more information about the newspaper, call Mayor Ashley Brady or City Administrator Alan Ammons at (843) 423-5961.

Events at the Marion County Library

October 5th at 3:30 - 4:30 PM, the Library will have First Thursday Art for ages 6 - 12.

On October 20th from 5:30 - 7:00 PM, we welcome ages 6-12 to Fort Night in the Library! We will turn the library stacks into one massive fort with games, scary stories, and food to follow.

October 30th - November 3rd the Library celebrates International Games Week. Watch for small pop-up gaming events throughout the week. On Friday, join us for our finale: Family Night Escape Room on the 3rd floor from 3:30-5:00 PM.



Each month there is a Marion Foodie meeting and a Marion Film Club meeting, sponsored by the Arts Council of Marion County Randy Floyd at (843) 992-1627 or email floydandy@hotmail.com for information.

Wednesday, October 4th....

8:30 a.m.. **Rise and Shine**, Marion School District Office, 719 N. Main Street. Everyone is invited.

Thursday, October 5th....

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. **First Thursday Art**, Marion County Library , 101 SE Court Street. For ages 6-12.

Saturday, October 7th....

9:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m. **Commons Market**, N. Main Street. Fall Market Fest at the Commons with all sorts of crafts, baked goods, photo sessions and face painting.

Sunday - Saturday, October 8th - 14th....

Fire Prevention Week, This year's campaign "**Every Second Counts.**"

Tuesday, October 10th.....

6:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Council Chambers.

Friday, October 20th.....

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. **Fort Night in the Library**. We welcome ages 6-12 to Fort Night in the Library! 101 SE Court Street. We will turn the library stacks into one massive fort with games, scary stories, and food to follow.

Monday - Friday, October 30th - November 3rd

The Library celebrates International Games Week. Watch for small pop-up gaming events throughout the week. On Friday, join us for our finale: Family Night Escape Room on the 3rd from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 21st....

9:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Town of Sellers, **Raccoon Festival**. There are several activities planned for this event. For more information, contact Mayor Barbara Hopkins (843) 758-3873 or Town Hall at (843) 752-5009.

A-TEAM NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

"WE ARE OUR NEIGHBORS' KEEPERS"

Contributed by: Dolly Boyer

Happy Fall from A-Team. A group can only be as strong as its members want it to be. It takes a lot of effort to come together for a common cause. Personalities, personal feelings and egos must be put aside. Someone will invariably disappoint you. There is no worse feeling than finding out someone is not the ideal you believed them to be. Then there are the people that will live down to your expectations. You can't let these people distract you from the good you are trying to accomplish. Everyone must rally around the common goal. When you step into the meeting room, each person must be treated with dignity and respect. You have to focus on the goal and not yourself. It helps to have a cause that you feel strongly about. Of course, in A-Team's case that is reducing crime in our neighborhood. We have accomplished that but it will require us to continue the fight. This is a cause that will never end. In the time I have been involved with A-team, I have seen the group grow in numbers and strength. Members have found their voices and gotten to know each other. Friendships have been forged and bonds have been formed. All of these things make for a stronger group and the burden of the mission becomes lighter. We have learned that when you get acquainted with your neighbors you are more likely to notice if something is not right at their home. This leads to crimes being stopped and/or solved faster. When people unite around a common cause, they can accomplish anything. Unity of purpose is the first step in meeting your goal. Each member should feel that the group is theirs and take pride in being a part of it. As the seasons change, remember that daylight hours are shorter. Everyone must look out for children at bus stops. Please obey the speed limits in town. Remember to be on the lookout for trick-or-treaters on Halloween. A-Team meets the first Monday of each month @ the Firehouse on E Bond St at 6:30 PM. Our next meeting will be on October 2nd. The public is always welcome. Come join us and find out A-Team truly feels "We are our Neighbors' Keepers." For more information call Dolly @ 843-433-0941.

Chase Funderburk is employee of the Month



The City of Marion recognized firefighter Chase Funderburk as its August 2017 Employee of the Month. Chase started his career with the City of Marion Fire Department as

an Explorer when he was sixteen years old. He has been employed as a full-time engineer since September 2014. Chase is also a certified EMT and serves as a member of the Marion Rescue Squad.

Chase works hard for the community and the fire department, and he volunteers countless hours on his days off to transport patients and respond to calls. His participation rate is one of the highest in the department. "Chase takes his position as a firefighter personally", said Chief Trey Cooper. "He takes great pride in his work and is always willing to go the extra mile".

Relay for Life

Relay for Life is the fundraising arm of the American Cancer Society. We raise money for some of the programs like the HOPE LODGE, LOOK GOOD FEEL GOOD and many others that the American Cancer Society offers. If someone you know has been affected by cancer please call 1-800-227-2345 and find out what they can do for you.

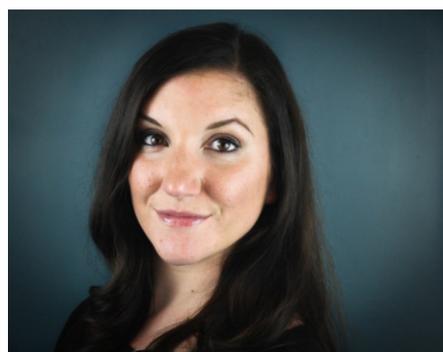
It is time to get your team registered to be a part of the 2017-2018 Relay for Life Event. The Relay for Life event has been going on in Marion County for 24 years. WE would love to have some of our previous teams come back and join us or if you as an individual would like to volunteer and help plan and get the event going. We would love to hear from you.

Our website is open and ready for you to register. The website is www.relayforlife.org/marionsc If you do not have a team you can choose the Marion County ACS Team. If you have any questions contact the Marion County event lead Debbie Erwin at [843-260-4483](tel:843-260-4483) or debbieerwin20@gmail.com or Chinel Boateng Senior Manager for Community Development 843-245-8538 or chinel.boateng@cancer.org.

All meetings held at Carolina's Hospital Systems in Marion - Classroom A-beginning at 6:00 pm. Any cancer survivor is asked to meet at 5:30 pm each month at the same location.

HMRA New Director

HMRA proudly welcome Ms. Stephanie Indergaard as the new Executive Director. Stephanie previously worked in the



school system for 9 years as a teacher. She taught in North Carolina, South Korea, and South Carolina. Originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, she has been living in Marion for the past 5 years. Stephanie has a passion for bringing out the best in the town. She believes in building strong relationships to help restore and preserve Marion and what it has to offer. Stephanie will work to increase community involvement, provide family friendly activities, and bring life back into our town. She lives in town with her husband and daughter and enjoys photography, camping, and spending time outdoors.

.....**CITY NEWS**.....

Marion Chamber of Commerce announces Yard of the Month



Dolly Boyer of 110 S. Withlacoochee Avenue has been awarded the Marion Chamber of Commerce Yard of the Month for September 2017. The Chamber is proud to recognize those in our community that work so diligently, and add so much to our community's unique character. Mrs. Boyer will receive a Marion Chamber of Commerce Chamber Check in recognition of this honor.

Fall Sign-Ups

The Marion Recreation Department will begin accepting sign-ups for Basketball starting Monday, October 2nd and running through Tuesday, October 31st. There will be several age groups...4-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, and 17U. When registering your child, please bring their birth certificate. Children will not be allowed to be signed up without it. The cost for registration is \$21.00 per child. Please make sure to get your child signed up during these dates.

Senior Aerobics at Watsonia Center

Senior Aerobics has resumed and classes will begin on October 2nd at the Shannon Wilkerson Gym. Classes are on Monday and Thursday, from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. The instructor is Mrs. Anna Boatwright. All classes are FREE, but donations are appreciated to help defer cost of the class. If you haven't participated before, please come out and register at the Marion Recreation Department.

Senior Bingo

We offer Senior Bingo the on first & third Thursday of each month from 8:30 a.m. –9:30 a.m. at Watsonia Recreation. Bingo is FREE of charge and we welcome newcomers to come join in on the fun. We offer prizes for the winners and refreshments for you to enjoy while playing. We do have a 2 card playing limit. Come check us out and bring some friends to join in.

Ms. Latoyha Jackson, MSN, FNP-C



Helping Hands Free Medical Clinic welcomes Ms. Latoyha Jackson. She is a native to the Pee Dee Region of South Carolina. She brings to Marion County 8 years of experience in the nursing field. She has experience in Emergency / Trauma, Nephrology, and Family Medicine. She enjoys spending time with her family and travelling.

"I want to deliver quality compassionate care for those in my community. I want to continue to research and work with patients to develop an individualized a plan of care," says Latoyha.

City's Playgrounds

The following City of Marion playgrounds provide free fun and are open to the public:

Withlacoochee Park

Withlacoochee Ave - This park has a walking track and playground equipment. This site holds Marion's Tennis Courts.

Grice's Recreation Center

603 Gurley Street - The playground has been updated with new playground equipment. This site also has a basketball court behind the center and is near the walking track.

Tilghman Park

409 Montgomery Street - It also has slides, hobby horses, swings and a merry-go-round.

Looking for the right place to hold your next event?

Need a place to have your class reunion, family reunion, church social, or to have a party? We have the perfect location for you, whether an outdoor or indoor event from our picnic shelter or our recreation and fine arts center. Anyone interested in these locations for their events should call 423-5410 for availability.

Soccer and football games are now underway. Soccer and flag football games will be held at Green Street Sports Complex and our football games will be held at Watsonia. Please come out and support our recreation athletics

CDJ Aerobics

Aerobics classes are offered Monday thru Friday evening, from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at CD Joyner. Taught by Ms. Lillie Ann Sanders, the classes are \$30 per month. For information or details, call Recreation Department at 423-5410.

Ping Pong Club

Don't forget that Marion Recreation holds a Ping Pong Club every Monday & Wednesday from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. You can come by on one of these days and freshen up on your ping pong skills, watch some games or learn how to play. For details, call 423-5410.

Here is our Admissions fee schedule.

Season Pass: \$5.00 (inclusive for Football and Soccer)

Adult: \$2.00

Kids (6-12): \$1.00



Don't forget Daylight Savings Ends November 4th at midnight. Fall back an hour. Remember to change smoke detectors batteries.